

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065276

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TAGS: EEC, PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: US/EC PRESIDENCY DIALOGUE -- MARCH 29-30 POLITICAL

DIRECTORS MEETING

REF: LONDON 4422

1. IN CONNECTION WITH SUBJECT MEETING, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONSULT WITH UK PRESIDENCY ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS.

2. CYPRUS.

PREPARATIONS FOR RESUMPTION OF THE CYPRUS INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON MARCH 31 APPEAR TO BE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY. WE HAVE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE ROLE OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM AND HIS STAFF IN PREPARING FOR THE TALKS, AND WE NOW BELIEVE THAT SUBSTANTIVE, SUSTAINED NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS WILL BEGIN IN VIENNA. WE WILL KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE EC NINE, THROUGH THE UK PRESIDENCY, AS THE TALKS PROGRESS, BUT WE THINK AT THIS POINT ANY EC INITIATIVE IS UNNECESSARY. A

DEPARTMENT OFFICER (NELSON LEDSKY, DIRECTOR FOR SOUTHERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS) WILL BE IN VIENNA IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AND IN A LOW-KEY MANNER WILL MAINTAIN INFORMAL CONTACT WITH UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS AND THE NEGOTIATORS. HE WOULD WELCOME CONTACT WITH FCO CYPRUS EXPERT OR VIENNA BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER ON BEHALF OF EC NINE.

3. AEGEAN.

THE RISKS OF A NEW AND MORE DANGEROUS AEGEAN CONFRONTATION BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY ARE GROWING. THERE HAS BEEN NO FORWARD MOVEMENT AND APPEARS TO BE NO PROSPECT OF MOVEMENT IN AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AND AIRSPACE TALKS. WITH THE RETURN OF BETTER SAILING WEATHER, THE APPROACHING TURKISH ELECTIONS, AND TURKISH AND GREECE MILITARY EXERCISES, THE RISKS ARE GROWING. THERE HAS BEEN NO FORWARD MOVEMENT AND APPEARS TO BE NO PROSPECT OF MOVEMENT IN AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AND AIRSPACE TALKS. WITH THE RETURN OF BETTER SAILING WEATHER, THE APPROACHING TURKISH ELECTIONS, AND TURKISH AND GREECE MILITARY EXERCISES, THE RISKS ARE GROWING.

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CISES, THE CHANCES ARE INCREASING THAT AN INCIDENT WILL OCCUR WHICH WILL LEAD TO AN ARMED CLASH. ON EVERY APPROPRIATE OCCASION, WE HAVE URGED MUTUAL RESTRAINT AND A SERIOUS EFFORT TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES THROUGH A PROCESS OF DIRECT DIALOGUE. WE WOULD HOPE EC NINE MEMBER STATES WOULD CONTINUE TO DO THE SAME. ALONG LINES FEBRUARY 17 HARTMAN-HIBBERT CONVERSATION (STATE 38416), WE WOULD HOPE EC NINE MEMBER STATES MIGHT ALSO BEGIN AN INTERNAL CONSIDERATION OF AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AND OTHER ISSUES TO SEE WHAT, IF ANY, ROLE THE EC MIGHT USEFULLY PLAY IN FUTURE. WE ARE LOOKING AT THESE QUESTIONS WITHIN USG AND MIGHT AT A LATER DATE HAVE PARTICULAR THOUGHTS TO SHARE. AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, WE WOULD WELCOME ANY EC NINE THINKING ON AEGEAN PROBLEMS.

4. NAC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING (NACCFM) IN NEW DELHI, APRIL

6-11, IS AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN THE INTRA-LDC PROCESS OF SHAPING ISSUES HEADED FOR THE 32ND UNGA, AND THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC MEETINGS TO FOLLOW IN THE LATE SPRING AND SUMMER. ITS RESULTS ARE THEREFORE LIKELY TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT IN EC NINE/US DECISIONS ON STRATEGY FOR ALL OF THESE ISSUES. BECAUSE OF ITS TIMING, THE NACCFM'S REACTION TO THE UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS ON AN INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES IS LIKELY TO BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO THE NORTH/SOUTH ATMOSPHERE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT ON MAY 7 AND 8 AND THE RESUMED CIEC, APRIL 26. THE NACCFM IS ALSO LIKELY TO GIVE US OUR FIRST INDICATION OF THE SHAPE OF THE NORTH KOREAN CAMPAIGN

FOR THE 32ND UNGA AND OF THE IMPACT OF THE SUCCESSFUL AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT ON GENERAL LDC ATTITUDES ON THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE. WE ARE OURSELVES APPROACHING MODERATE MEMBERS OF THE NAC TO COUNSEL A NON-CONFRONTA-
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TIONAL POSITION ON SENSITIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES. WE WOULD HOPE THAT EC MEMBERS MIGHT CONSIDER WHETHER THEY MIGHT USEFULLY UNDERTAKE SIMILAR LIMITED REPRESENTATION.
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